

Equipment & Progression Panel Report for January 2024 WTLC meeting

The Equipment & Progression Panel was formed to look into and progress suggestions/feedback from the WT community and relevant matters raised at WTLC meetings.

Over the months, suggestions/feedback have been put forward and it is important that these topics are then placed on the WTLC Agenda to allow discussion and further feedback before being presented to the WTLC for consideration.

A summary of the topics put forward over 2023, and the subsequent conclusions are as follows –

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| 1. Small dogs to be able to progress to TD with their reduced jumps | rejected by WTLC |
| 2. Extra commands in CD Stake exercises to allow for progression through the stakes in those exercises | agreed by WTLC |
| 3. Jumps to be progressed in size through the stakes, allowing for reduced jumps in early stakes | rejected by WTLC |
| 4. Pre CD Stakes (without agility) to be recognised by the KC and allow formal qualifications for younger / less experienced dogs | rejected by WTLC |
| 5. Progression of down stay format through the early stakes or graded marking system | rejected by WTLC |
| 6. CD Sit stay to be shown as “in sight” | agreed by WTLC |
| 7. Discussion re WT Warrant (as per agility/obedience) – | rejected by WTLC |
| 8. All societies to contribute with ideas for how WT could progress and grow in light of concerns raised over the low trial entries | no response from most Reps |
| 9. Improve communication within the WT community over Liaison Council matters via social media, in a similar format to that of Obedience & Agility | no response from most Reps |

This may seem a lot of proposed changes over the year; they have all been with the focus on encouraging new people into the sport, and keeping them there.

They were all put forward by the WT Community who we continue to encourage to give any topic feedback/suggestions to their Society Reps and/or the E&P Panel.

Publicity of WT

Work has been done to promote WT with canine magazines and other dog sports –

Dog Sports UK website now includes WT information/articles and a Training Club Directory.

Dog Sports UK also created an online booklet of the biographies of the Crufts demo team.

Links for further information are shown to the KC website and WT Info.

All Societies, via their Reps, offered free online subscription to Dogs Sport UK to pass to their members.

Dogs Today/Dogs Monthly and Your Dog magazines have published WT articles and photos.

Currently in progress by the E&P Panel

1. Crufts Show Guide 2024 to include WT information article and demo team photos.
2. Kennel Gazette to include WT information article and photos in March (available at Crufts) issue.
3. The Beginners Guide to WT Kennel Club leaflet has been reviewed and an amended version submitted to the KC for progression. New photos to be supplied for this.
4. The KC website section for WT is being reviewed and will be updated with new photos being supplied.
5. Online entry system being researched and findings passed to trials officials for further consultation.